IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ppl. No.

: 09/913,157

Applicant

: Katsumi TSUKAMOTO et al.

Filed

: August 10, 2001

TC/A.U.

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Examiner

: J. Contee

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Technology Center 2600

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. A copy of the Office Action in the corresponding Japanese application is also included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, p.c.

y mem

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT							Complete if Known						
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							Name	ed Inventor	Katsumi TSUKAMOTO et al.				
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.